REUNION



RIBA MARITIMA NA ST.MAARTEN

Reunion riba maritima na St.Maarten



Recientemente ,riba 26 y 27 di maart ultimo Aruba, Corsou, Sint Maarten y Hulanda a bini huntu den cuadro di e Maritiem Overleg Platform (MOP) pa e di dos biaha. E reunion a tuma lugar den e sala di reunion CTB – Dr. A.C. Wathey Cruiseship Facility na Sint Maarten. E anja aki, pa prome biaha, Aruba a wordo pidi pa ta voorzitter di e MOP mirando e desaroyo grandi cu Ministerio di Transporte y Minister Otmar Oduber a logra den moderizando Directie Scheepvaart Aruba.

Director di e departamento Maritima di Aruba, Carlyle De Coteau, kende recientemente a tuma rienda di dicho departamento a trece varios cambionan grandi den e departamento pa loke tat rata mehoracion y automatisacion di su administracion. Ademas di esaki,por bisa tambe cu e departamento aki ta hopi active den reevaluacion di e leynan anticua di maritime y ta trciendo sugerencianan na Gabinete Eman pa mehora e servicio y e tratamento di un mihor control riba esnan cu ta hasi uso di nos teritorio riba lama.

Puntonan cu a wordo elogia ta e manera cu e maneho di Minister Oduber a percura pa e servisio di Scheepvaart na Aruba, cu a mehora considerabelmente den poco tempo y rol di liderasco cu e departamento a tuma den e parti caribense den Reino Hulandes.

Topiconan cu a wordo discuti ta e ley nobo regardando Ballast Water, e vaartuigenverordening nobo pa Aruba y Reino, Kustwacht Carib, participacion den IMO.

Un punto hopi remarcabel ta cu despues di mas cu 100 aña, Gobierno Hulandes ta evaluando pa cambia of mihor bisa modernisa e ley yama Schepenwet. Esaki lo ta e punto di discusion den e MOP pa e proximo añanan mirando cu e cambio di e ley aki tin consecuencia pa tur e paisnan den Reino Hulandes.

E proximo MOP lo tuma lugar na maart 2013 na Corsou.

Endy Croes den libertad



Awe mainta, ex-director di Fundacion Lotto pa Deporte, Endy Croes a ser laga den libertad pa Landsrecherche,despues di a keda deteni pa mas di un siman,pa interoge en relacion di supuesto iregularidadnan di documento y falsificacion di documento na dicho instituto. Manera por corda dos aña pasa e investigacion nan a inicia relaciona cu posibel fraude y falsificacion di documentonan na Lotto pa Deporte. Por corda cu a detene varios persona,entre nan Ricky Croes cu tabata encarga cu e parti di finansa di Lotto pa Deporte y despues tampoco no a haya nada castigabel den su maneho y a laga Ricky Croes den libertad.

Awe despues di interogacionnan rigoroso door di Landsrecherche no a produci nada nobo y esaki a keda demostra den e hecho cu Endy Croes a ser poni den libertad,sino elo mester a keda sera y pasa pa nos instituto corecional na San Nicolas. Esaki no tabata e caso,debi cu no a haya nada nobo di locual a ser bisa dos aña pasa caba.

Sinembargo, e investigacionnan ta continua door di Landsrecherche cu ta e instancia competente den e investigacion di Lotto pa Deporte.

Valero ta saliendo for di su Heavy equipmentnan

Na e momentonan aki Valero Corporation na San Antonio,Texas ta saliendo for di su heavy equipmentnan na e refineria di Aruba y ta bendiendo su tugboatnan y otro equiponan pisa. Esaki ta un señal clarito cu pa Valero Corporation, nos refineria den Colony ya a pasa pa historia pa nan compania.

Vocero di Valero Corporation Bill Day mes no a duna mucho detaye na prensa relaciona cu e bentanan aki,ni tampoco kier a divulga si tin interesadonan cu nan lo ta den combersacion cu nan pa un posibel compra.

Manera ya ta conoci, e balor riba mercado petrolero di Valero mes a baha te cu 350 miyon dollar.despues di tabata para te na mas cu 900 miyon dollar.

Esaki ta bini despues cu a hiba un perdida di mas di 605 miyon dollar door di e situacion entre otro di e refineria aki na nos isla,segun Valero corporation a duna di conoce resientemente.

E vocero di Valero Corporation na San Antonio,Texas Bill Day no kier a bisa nada si tin combersacionnan andando cu ehecutivonan di PetroChina,solamente cu tin varios interesado den pasado y awor cu ta pendiente.

Aki na Aruba gobernantenan ta hopi keto riba e particularidad nan aki y si tin movecion di parti di e ehecutivonan di PetroChina, esta si cu nan ta pa bini nos isla of no,manera lo ta ser insinua.\Mientras tanto e 600 trahadornan di Valero aki nan ta keto bai den suspenso si nan lo tin salario otro luna si of no y si nan lo bai forma parti di un otro compania petrolero cu lo por bai bini. Tur esakinan ta hasi cu e trahadornan aki y nan famia ta sinti e efecto di e tension aki diariamente. Speransa di nos tur ta cu pronto lo por haya e bon nobo cu e refineria no solamente lo keda operacional,pero cu nos localnan lo ta parti di e compania nobo aki.

Servicio Veterinario ta pidi comunidad pa ta alerta

Den e ultimo simannan aki,hopi doñonan di animal,specialmente cacho, a ser afecta cu bichinan y otro sorto di malesanan cu ta andando. Servicio veterinario ta alerta e comunidad na e momento nan aki pa vigila nan mascota di aserca pa cualkier eventualidad pa trece e animal liher pa observacion pa evita lo peor na e salud di bo mascota.

Mirando e casonan cu tabatin den pasado y resien, comunidad mester ta cauteloso pa un eventual brote di cualkier malesa contagioso,cual no ta e caso na e momentonan aki.



Di acuerdo cu Raport di WODC

Den Lotto y Laboratorium a encontra asuntonan di corupcion, malversacion y fraude

Den su raport cu a wordo traha cu masha cautela WODC (Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek- en Documentatiecentrum) ta conclui cu durante gobernacion di Gobierno di Nel Oduber tanto den e caso di Lotto como di Laboratorium tin asuntonan cu ta mustra riba corupcion, malversacion y fraude. Tur esaki ta debi dor cu e control interno a faya.

Pa loke t'e caso di Lotto cu ta hopi den noticia ultimo tempo mester bisa cu ainda e caso penal ta andando. Actualmente e ex Director General, Endy Croes ta sera como sospecho di a comete entre otro falsifacion y malversacion.

Pa motibo cu e control interno a faya Aruba a bin haya su mes confronta cu asuntonan serio na unda placa grandi pa bay den saco di un solo famia.

No ta cuenta cu aki ta trata di storia fabrica manera oficina di abogadonan WCT kier pa pueblo kere, pero ta loke cu Landsrecheche despues di investigacionnan di lunanan largo a bin descubri y cu pruebanan den man por a bay over na detencion di e ex Director General di Lotto, sr. Endy Croes.

Papiando di Endy Croes, awe e tin cu presenta dilanti di Huez Comisario atrobe, pero manera algun observador ta bisa, como su abogado a conseh'e riba su derecho di mantene silencio, y como tal no ta colabora cu husticia manera a ser bisa den principio, Huez Comisario por considera pa prolonga su detencion. Esaki lo ta keda determina awe mainta 10 or.

Oficina di accountant Ernst & Young como tambe Landsrecherche y WODC a constata iregularidadnan na granel den Lotto pa Deporte. Asina a resulta cu pa ningun di e proyectonan grandi manera p.e. construccion di facilidadnan deportivo tabatin un destaho publico drechi. Pio ainda, gran parti di e proyectonan aki a resulta di a wordo duna na companianan di famia directo di e Director.

Loke den e caso di Lotto pa Deporte ta un pregunta cu a keda colga den laira ta e envolvimento di e Minister di e tempo ey, sr.Ramon Lee. Te con leu esaki a bay?

E investigacion a trece riba un carta cu a wordo firma pa ex Minister Ramon Lee pa trata na yuda e ex Director Endy Croes.

Firmando e carta aki ex Minister Lee ta parce di ta incrimina su mes. Pasobra den dje e ta bisa di tabata na altura di tur loke tabata pasa den Lotto pa Deporte y cu e mes a duna su bendicion p'e Director (y prome cu esey Presidente di Hunta Directiva) Endy Croes contra tur regla di ética y ley di contabilidad, duna proyectonan na su ruman Edmond Croes.

Proyectonan cu a wordo duna sin cu tabatin destaho publico y tambe cu companianan cu a wordo lanta dor di Edmond Croes di un dia pa otro y algun hasta despues di a haya oferta y placa caba. Cu ex Minister Ramon Lee ta bisa di tabata na altura di e forma di proceder aki y hasta a declara di a duna su aprobacion, ta contra tur regla di bon gobernacion.

Con Landsrecherche ta bay trata ex Minister Lee den e caso di Lotto cu ta ensera fraude, malversacion y falsificacion, ta bay wordo nota den e dianan nos dilanti, pasobra cu ningun hende ta para riba ley.

Manera menciona awe Huez Comisario ta dicidi ex Director di FLPD Endy Croes, kende lo keda den libertad of lo prolonga su detencion, ya cu e no ta colaborando cu husticia pa finalisa e investigacionnan aki.

ELEQT ta sera conoci cu Aruba



Ayera durante un agasajo social, invitadonan y Aruba a sera conoci cu ELEQT, un organisacion social di nivel. Nos por considera e organisacion aki como uno elite.

Pa por bira miembro, bo mester wordo introduci door di un di esnan cu ta den e organisacion social aki y tambe ora bo ta miembro, abo mes por introduci cinco persona.

Meta di ELEQT ta pa trece miembronan hunto na unda ta trata topiconan y acontesimiento social. Esaki si nos no ta equiboca,ta prome biaha cu nos isla ta sera conoci cu un organisacion di prestigio y di alta clase asina aki.

Entre esnan cu ta forma parti di ELEQT ta e conocido, Jacqueline Suttle,kende ta e persona tras di henter e introducion aki na nos isla.

Esnan cu tabata na e recepcion ayera ta entre otro; Sharin Treuniet cu ta Regional Director,Ruud Smeets,fundador y CEO, y Vincent Zegger,cu ta encarga cu business Development.

Tabata un rato ameno na unda tur presente a sera conoci,hunto cu prensa e introducion aki di ELEQT na Aruba.

Esaki a tuma lugar na Nikki Beach, antes Surfside.

E headquarters di ELEQT ta na Londres,Inglatera.

Na esnan responsabel pa e introducion di e prestigioso organisacion aki, un pabien y exito pa futuro.









Hospital ta sponsor uniform di team di softball

Recientemente a tuma luga e bautismo di uniform di e team di softball di trahadonan di Dr. Horacio E. Oduber Hospital. E bautismo aki a sosode den compania di dr. Jaime Falconi, Director medico y tambe señor Theo de Kool, Director financiero conhuntamente cu e madrina cu a keda den persona di e fiel fanatico señora Gladys Boekhoudt di Departamento di administracion. Un uniform na unda e colornan di Hospital ta resalta y sin duda tur hungado di e team di softball ta bisti cu respet representando Hospital pafo di ora di trabou. Esaki ya ta di 3 biaha cu Hospital ta sponsor uniform pa e team cual ta algo siguramente di aplaudi.

Hunta di directiva ta sumamente orguyoso di e team aki cu ya nan tin 20 aña di existencia y nan ta di pensamento cu deporte ta importante pa salud riba no solamente termino cortico sino largo tambe. Despues di un dia largo di trabou haci deporte ta yuda baha stress, ta esencial pa prevencion y ta yena'bo cu energia positivo. Tur hungado ta pensa cu haciendo e deporte di softball conhuntamente cu colega ta bon pa e salud pero siguramente ta contribui na e union di colega tambe.

Actualmente e team di softball ta consisti di 17 hungado di diferente departamento di Hospital. Sumamente interesante ta cu 3 di e hungadonan ta activo desde e inauguracion di e team di softball 20 aña pasa. E team ta train 2 biaha pa luna riba un veld fiho. Pa e aña aki tin planea pa organisa un torneo di softball entre empleadonan di Hospital. Sorpresa pa tur hungado tabata momento cu Hunta di Directiva a anuncia durante di bay provee un "all stars team" pa hunga contra e team di softball di Hospital. Un reto cu siguramente nan a tuma man habri.

MEP den proceso pa injecta sanger nobo den partido

Manera ta conoci, despues di e resultado di e ultimo elecion pa parlamento di Aruba, na unda partido movimiento electoral di pueblo a bai substancialmente atras den asiento den parlamento di 11 pa ocho y awor nan tin solamentecinco asiento na e momento nan aki den nos parlamento,debi na diferencianan den e partido mes.

MEP a pasa den proceso recien pa eligi nan lider nobo cu a keda den nomber di Evelyn Wever-Croes,sobrina di e gran lider fundador di dicho partido geel,Betico Croes.

Hopi esfuerso ta ser poni den e restructuracion di e partido, na unda ta trahando fuertemente den tur e districto y barionan rond di nos isla pa agrupa atrobe e mepistanan.

Si nos corda, e partido a haya un sla formal serca e pueblo votador, na unda cu nan a keda rechasa pa e ocho aña di gobernacion cu pueblo no a aproba. No ta solamente MEP, sino pastor Lampe su partido y Monica Arends-Kock e tempo ey nan tambe a keda rechasa y cada uno a perde nan asiento den parlamento. E pueblo a dicidi di vota masalmente riba e partido berde cu a haya 10 asiento,mas dos rechtzetel pa un total di 12 asiento den parlamento.

Nos por corda con emocional,arogante y frustra e exlider di MEP, Nelson Orlando Oduber a dirigi su mes dilanti television e mes anochi,door di grita cu su famia y votadornan,"Bai cumpli Awor" y otro cosnan mas cu no ta alcaso mas awor aki,pero cu si a hasi su dañonan na e partido den diferente forma.

Sinembargo no mester culpa e hoben politiconan cu na e momentonan aki ta trahando duro pa trece e partido geel bek na su nivel politico. Hopi esfuerso ta ser hasi y tin indicacionnan cu ta mustra cu e pueblo den su totalidad ta vigilando e cambio y desaroyonan aki masha di serca,pa mira kiko e partido geel lo Sali bini cunele.

Un di e puntonan cu sigur e lider nobo mester tene na cuenta ta e hecho cu bao e lideraszgo anterior, e antagonismo y terkedad a hunga un rol grandi den desintegra esnan di partido y nan siguidornan cu a bai pa otro partido den e ultimo elecion. Den esun bieuw, a bira lomba pa esnan cu pa añanan largo tabata fiel na partido y a bira sordo pa consehonan y voz di e pueblo den e ocho añanan di gobernacion di gabinete Oduber cu e resultado ya bon conoci pa nos tur.

Awendia un biento fresco y un luz cla ta briya den e partido cu poco poco ta hayando su briyo di hermandad,y honestidad bek.

E tarea no ta facil pa e lider hoben,pero Evelyn Wever-Croes ta mustrando si cu e ta haciendo su maximo esfuerso pa trece e partido geel atrobe na e nivel di antes y pa bolbe trece e votadornan cu a bai laga nan bek den e seno familiar di e partido geel.

Evelyn Wever-Croes a enfatisa cu ta e tin e ultimo palabra di kende ta bai riba e lista geel otro añ,claro elo tin sus conseheronan den e cuestion di traha lista aki. Mester tene na cuenta tambe cu e fluho cu a bai laga e partido geel,tabata rabia ,desiluciona y desapunta den e lideraszgo anterior y cu awor e cuenta ta diferente y por mira esaki tambe segun observadornan critico di e partido geel a expresa.

"Lo bini hopi cambio di cara riba e lista geel pa otro aña y e acercamiento di partido pa cu pueblo lo ta mas estrecho y habri.

Pa loke ta trata esnan envolvi den e barionan y districtonan ta trahando duro pa trece e cambio tan anhela den e partido geel.

" Mi tin e convicion y seguridad cu nos ta riba e bon caminda pa trece bek e machine geel cu tanto e poueblo ta haya su falta den gobernacion,specialmente riba tereno di structura estatal, pa defende nos Status Aparte," Evelyn Wever-Croes a duna di conoce na nos redacion.

Elo bira interesante pa e proximo elecion pa parlamento, pa mira con prepara pa enfrenta un pueblo votador cu ultimo elecion, tabata hopi desapunta den e partido geel y a pidi pa un cambio y lo ta interesante pa mira si e cambio ey lo bolbe keda aproba of lo mira cambionan grandi.

Awareness Ride

Ladies of Harley ta organisa pa di 3 aña consecutive nan Women's Ride cu e aña aki ta uniforza cu H.O.G. Aruba Chapter den un Awareness Ride.

E idea di organisa un Women's Ride a surgi pa motibo cu tin hopi hende muher cu ta manehador di un Harley-Davidson®.

H.O.G. Aruba Chapter pa prome bes ta organisa E 'Awareness Ride' pa concientisa nos automobilista y motociclistanan pa ta cortes y atento cu otro den e trafico congestiona di Aruba. Pa e coredo di motorcycle e emfasista bai mas tanto riba concientisacion di bisti apropiadamente pa core motorcycle, pero tambe pa core preventivo y atento. Automobilistanan tambe mester ta conciente di trafico en general, especialmentecu esnan cu ta mas vulnerable esta epeaton, ciclista y motociclista.

Pa duna su aporte na e causa aki Harley-Davidson Aruba tin e grato placer di anuncia cu e jiu muher di e legendario Willy G. Davidson, un di e fundadornan di e companiaHarley-Davidson®, Karen Davidson lo ta presente.

E gran evento aki ta consisti di 3 actividad:

4 di mei pa 7'or di anochi ta e 'Garage Party' organisa pa Harley-Davidson Aruba, riba L.G. Smith Boulevard 106, cu ta exclusivamente pa brinda e hende muher cu tin interes den compra di un Harley-Davidson®, e oportunidad pa sera conoci cu tur e caracteristicanan cu e motocicleta di e marca unico aki ta ofrece.Na e ocasionaki Karen Davidson mes lo ta presente pa duna tur informacion necesario. Na final ta brinda bo e oportunidad pa correun Harley y sinti e libertad cu esaki ta tresecune. Pa esaki por inscribi caba na tel 5828660. Cuponan ta limita.

Diasabra 5 di mei lo bai tin e 'Awareness Night Ride', organisa pa L.O.H. conhuntamente cu H.O.G. cu lo cuminsa for di Big Twin. Despues di diferente stops lo termina e anochi aki na Moomba Beach cu animacion musical di Dushi Band.

Diadomingo 6 di mei lo bai tin e 'Awareness Ride', cu lo cuminsa for di Big Twin recoriendo careteranan di Aruba, terminando riba Plaza Libertador Betico Croes cu animacion di Metropolis.

H.O.G. Aruba Chapter & Ladies of Harley ta gradici tur e patrocinadornan cu ta haci e evento aki possible.

Honrando tres persona dinamico na Red Sail Sports

Den luna di maart y april, Red Sail Sports tabata di fiesta ya cu tres di su empleadonan a cumpli hunto 30 aña di servicio.

Clifford Gnecco a cuminsa su carera na Red Sail Sports dia 19 di maart 2007 y ta e cara conoci ariba “Pasa Bon” un di nos ‘dive boats’. Trahando pa e ultimo cinco añanan como capitan ta exigi pa bo ta un persona cu sa di duna e atencion profesional pa asegura cu ora tin huespednan ariba su dive boat, nan lo tin e siguransa y confianza cu nan ta den bon man.

Suzy Curiel eherciendo su labor diario desde su entrada na Red Sail Sports 26 di maart 1997 ta recorda e bunita añanan cu e tin ta laborando na Red Sail Sports. Dies cinco aña ta hopi pero ora bo tin un bon ambiente di trabao pa traha bo ta haci cu hopi amor y dedicacion. Suzy ta un persona hopi dedica na su trabao y semper ta cla pa yuda unda cu por y asina banda di ta ‘housekeeper’, Suzy no ta basila pa contesta telefon of hasta pa yuda un cliente den un di retail outlets.

Tambe nos ta honra Mavis Maduro, Financial Controller, cu ariba 1 di april ultimo a recorda su 10 aña di servicio. Apesar cu Mavis ta recordando 10 aña den servicio directo di Red Sail Sports, nos por comparti cu e ta cumpliendo mas cu 15 aña ya cu trahando den servicio di Hyatt Mavis tabata e persona clave cu tabatin bao su encargo e interes financiero di Red Sail Sports.

Gerencia ta sumamente gradici na Clifford, Suzy y Mavis pa nan dedicacion durante e ultimo añanan y ta spera cu nan tur tres por cumpli hopi añanan mas cu nos.

Durante un momento festivo y sumamente ameno na Las Ramblas di La Cabana, gerencia a haci entrega di un plakkaat y tambe e envelop cu un bunita regaldo na cada un di nan. Un bunita boeket di flor cortesia di La Cabana a ser entrega na Mavis, Suzy y Clifford.

Alabes cortesia di La Cabana Management, un weekend stay a ser rifa entre e tres hubilarionan y Mavis Maduro a bira e feliz ganado di un weekend stay na La Cabana.

Pabien tambe ta bin di tur nan coleganan.







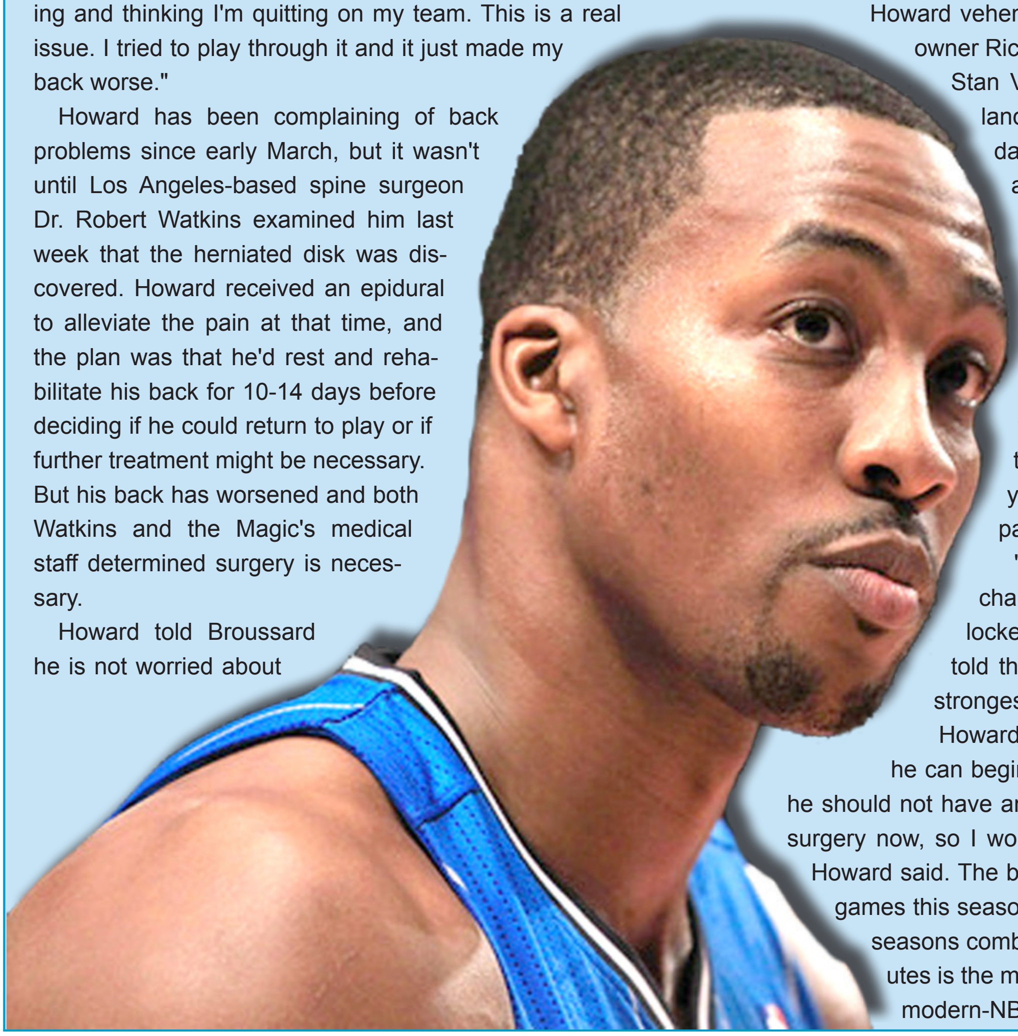




Dwight Howard out for season

Orlando Magic center Dwight Howard will undergo back surgery on Friday morning in Los Angeles to repair a herniated disk, effectively ending his season and eliminating him from participation in the 2012 Summer Olympics in London, Howard's agent said on Thursday night.

"It hurts (emotionally)," Howard told ESPN the Magazine's Chris Broussard. "That's the first thing -- it hurts. And then with people saying and thinking I'm quitting on my team. This is a real issue. I tried to play through it and it just made my back worse."



Howard has been complaining of back problems since early March, but it wasn't until Los Angeles-based spine surgeon Dr. Robert Watkins examined him last week that the herniated disk was discovered. Howard received an epidural to alleviate the pain at that time, and the plan was that he'd rest and rehabilitate his back for 10-14 days before deciding if he could return to play or if further treatment might be necessary. But his back has worsened and both Watkins and the Magic's medical staff determined surgery is necessary.

Howard told Broussard he is not worried about any long-term ramifications from the surgery.

"The doctor said it's a one-inch incision," Howard told Broussard. "He said I can start rehab right away and be back to full contact in four months. So I'm not really concerned. If anything, I'll come back stronger." Dan Fegan, Howard's agent, said he hopes this development debunks any thoughts that Howard's back problem was not serious and that he was utilizing it as an excuse not to play.

Howard vehemently disputed a report that he called Magic owner Rich DeVos and said he would not play for coach Stan Van Gundy again. A report by WKMG in Orlando said Howard called DeVos during last Friday's loss to the Atlanta Hawks. "I was getting an epidural during the game," he said. "I had no idea what was going on with the game until the third quarter. That's when I woke up. I couldn't have talked to him, because I was out of it." Howard also confirmed that a major reason he opted into the final year of his contract is because the Magic said they'd trade him if he didn't, and he wasn't prepared to give up on winning a title with the Magic this year. In fact, he still believes the Magic are capable of a title run without him.

"If the guys come together, we still have a chance," he said. "I know what we have in that locker room. I've seen it in spurts this season. I've told them, 'We don't have to be the biggest or the strongest, we just have to believe.'"

Howard said he has been told following the surgery he can begin full contact in three to four months and that he should not have any lingering issues. "That's why I'm doing the surgery now, so I won't have any problems with my back again," Howard said. The back issues have forced Howard to miss eight games this season, one more than he missed in his first seven seasons combined. His total of 621 games and 22,471 minutes is the most by a center in his first eight seasons in the modern-NBA era.

LeBron James, Heat notch key win against Bulls





MIAMI -- The earliest Miami and Chicago could meet again is Game 1 of the Eastern Conference finals.

Good thing. The tempers could use a little time to cool down. And after a game filled with shoves and takedowns, the race for the No. 1 seed in the East is going strong.

LeBron James had 27 points and 11 rebounds, Dwyane Wade scored 18 points and Miami tightened up the race in the East by beating the Bulls 83-72 on Thursday night in a scuffle-filled win that pulled the Heat within 1½ games of Chicago in the conference standings.

"This is what the postseason is all about," James said. "Both teams struggling to score offensively, and defensively, two very good defensive teams. It's a possession game. That's what happens in the postseason. The game slows down. Not many fast-break points. You've got to work for every attempt, work for every shot."

Mario Chalmers scored 16 points, and Udonis Haslem grabbed 10 rebounds for Miami, which held the Bulls to a season-low point total. The Bulls had been 23-0 this season when holding teams to 86 points or less.

John Lucas scored 16 points for Chicago, again without reigning MVP Derrick Rose because of injuries. Joakim Noah had 15 points and 10 rebounds, Luol Deng added 11 points and Carlos Boozer had 10 for the Bulls, who split four games with Miami this season and could have clinched the top spot in the East with a win on Thursday.

"We wanted it bad, but they wanted it more," Noah said. "That can't happen."

The teams combined for four individual technical fouls, two flagrant fouls and Miami reserve James Jones was ejected.

But above all else, Miami decided this one with defense. The Bulls went up 21-20 on a layup by Deng with 3:36 left in the first quarter, making them 10 of 14 from the field at that point. They shot 15 for 56 -- 27 percent -- the rest of the way.

Chicago (47-16) has games with Dallas, Indiana and Cleveland left, while Miami (45-17) still has matchups with Washington (twice), Houston and Boston.

Miami won despite playing without Chris Bosh, sidelined for the second straight night to rest minor bumps and bruises.

"This season's been a long, short year," Wade said. "But this is the time of the year we all love and enjoy."

In case anyone forgot that the Heat and Bulls don't particularly care for one another, the refresher courses came often in this one.

The first real salvo came with 6:05 left in the first half, when Jones was ejected after being assessed a flagrant-2 for excessive contact against Noah while trying for a rebound. Jones stretched out both arms to move Noah out of the way, making contact around the head.

By the end of the game, that play seemed like a love tap.

"Every time we play them that's how it's going to be," Bulls coach Tom Thibodeau said. "You have to have the mental toughness to get through all of that."

Wade and Chicago guard Richard Hamilton -- rivals for years -- raised the level of angst a few more notches early in the third quarter.

Hamilton led with his elbow and shoulder to create some space, and Wade took exception -- so he delivered an elbow and shoulder back, sending the Bulls' guard sprawling to the court. The jousting then turned verbal, enough to merit a technical foul for each, plus a flagrant-1 on Wade.

"Two people that are trying to out-will each other and fight to help their team win," Hamilton said.

And then things really got hot a few minutes later, not long after James was pulled down under the basket. James set a screen to free Chalmers from some pressure and was run into by Lucas, who gives up 9 inches and 85 pounds to the two-time NBA MVP. Predictably, Lucas went flying. Even more predictably, Lucas -- who was leapfrogged for a dunk by James in Chicago's first trip to Miami this season -- got angry.

"I knew I had him," James said.

After Deng fouled Chalmers to stop the play, and reopened a cut over his own left eye in the process, Lucas ran at James and the other eight players on the court at the time quickly converged on the area. It took referees about 5 minutes to sort out the mess, which only resulted in a personal foul on Deng and technicals on Lucas and James, who upon hearing his name announced, shouted, "For what?".

James shrugged off the next hit, a hard foul by Chicago's Omer Asik about a half-minute later, converting a three-point play in the process.

"It was a physical, competitive game against two teams that defend," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "That tends to lead to a little bit more passion. And nobody was really backing down."

Curtis Granderson hits 3 HRs, finishes with 5 hits as Yanks hang on



NEW YORK -- With three quick long balls, Curtis Granderson had Mr. October hooked.

Granderson hit three home runs in the first four innings and matched a career high with five hits, leading the New York Yankees to a 7-6 victory over the-Minnesota Twins on Thursday night.

Granderson homered in each of his first three at-bats, driving in four runs, and helped Phil Hughes overcome a four-run first inning to secure his first victory of the season.

"I enjoyed it," said Yankees special adviser Reggie Jackson, who had three home runs in a World Series game. "I think the nicest part was that he had two more chances to hit four. I was making sure I was watching the TV."

Granderson hardly considered he would have a chance to tie the major league record of four homers in a game when he was putting in extra cage work with hitting coach Kevin Long to try and find a decent rhythm at the plate.

But there he was, with many in the crowd standing and cheering in the sixth, when he lined a single to right field. In the eighth, he beat out a dribbler down the first-base line with fans urging him to beat the play with screams. He was then caught stealing.

"A lot of work went into today before we actually stepped onto the field. Had some big issues with timing," said Granderson, who came in hitting .208 with three homers.

Mark Teixeira hit his first home run of the year and the Yankees earned a split of the four-game series. The Twins have not won a series in New York since 2001, a year before Ron Gardenhire took over as manager.

Granderson homered to right-center in the first inning and hit a soaring, two-run shot into the second deck in right field in the second, both off Anthony Swarzak(0-3).

In the fourth, Granderson hit a line drive to the short right-field porch againstJeff Gray and came out of the dugout for a curtain call. Granderson is first player to hit three homers in a big league game this year. He's also the first player to hit three at new Yankee Stadium.

"What he did today is a special day," manager Joe Girardi said. "He should cherish it."

Granderson became the 12th major leaguer to hit three home runs in the first four innings of a game, according to STATS LLC and the SABR Home Run Log. Alfonso Soriano was the last to do it for the Chicago Cubs on June 8, 2007, against Atlanta.

The three-homer game was the first for a Yankees player since Alex Rodriguezhit three at Kansas City on Aug. 14, 2010. Granderson has 12 career multihomer games. This was his first with more than two home runs.

"The kid can hit," Gardenhire said. "You get it down there in that zone for him, he can turn on a baseball. That's a nice porch out there for left-handed hitters and he took full advantage of it."

The Yankees have had 28 three-homer games -- Jackson hit three in Game 6 of the 1977 World Series -- but only one of four homers, by Lou Gehrig in 1932.

Mariano Rivera, the fifth Yankees pitcher, worked a perfect ninth for his third save of the season and record 606th of his career.

For the third time in this series, the Yankees fell behind in the first.Ryan Doumit hit a two-run single to left that beat the shift. The Twins had loaded the bases on a single, a throwing error by second baseman Eduardo Nunez and a walk.

Danny Valencia then hit a long double to left-center on an 0-2 pitch to make it 4-0.

Teixeira also homered in the first, a two-run shot to almost the same spot near the Yankees bullpen in right-center that Granderson's drive landed. A notoriously slow starter, Teixeira homered in his 46th at-bat this season.

Derek Jeter had an RBI single in the second for his 3,110th hit, tying him with childhood idol Dave Winfield for 18th on the career list.

Fighting to keep his spot in the rotation with Andy Pettitte and Michael Pinedagetting closer to being ready to join the team, Hughes (1-2) gave up six runs and six hits -- two earned -- in 5 1/3 innings.

"It was far from a good outing, but there are some positives I can take out of it," Hughes said.

Swarzak had pitched better than his record suggested, receiving only one run of support in each of his first two starts, but he struggled from the start in this one. He gave up six runs and eight hits in 2 2/3 innings.

Twins shortstop Jamey Carroll made a diving stab of Jeter's grounder in the first and an over-the-shoulder, diving catch on Robinson Cano's pop to shallow left field in the second.

Doumit hit a two-run homer off Hughes in the sixth to cut the lead to 7-6.

"In this park, it's fun to hit," Doumit said.

Amare Stoudemire back with Knicks

CLEVELAND -- Amare Stoudemire will start for the New York Knicks Friday night against theCleveland Cavaliers after a nearly month-long absence due to a back injury.

"Don't know how many minutes I'll play him, just kind of gauge it as we go along. It's good to have him back," interim coach Mike Woodson said after Friday's shootaround.

Stoudemire has missed 13 games due to a bulging lower disk in his back.

The Knicks are 9-4 in Stoudemire's absence and clinched a playoff berth for the second straight season when the Milwaukee Bucks lost Thursday to the Indiana Pacers.

"We just thought about when would be a good time to get a few games under my belt and we figured tonight would be a good start," Stoudemire said, adding that he doesn't feel any pain in his back. "We did a great job of just attacking the injury and making sure everything around the injury is secure."

Carmelo Anthony, who had been starting at power forward in place of Stoudemire, will move back to small forward. Shooting guard Landry Fields, who has been struggling of late, will come off the bench while rookie guard Iman Shumpert remains in the starting lineup.

The Knicks hope that Stoudemire can provide a consistent second scoring option that they've lacked at times in his absence.

Stoudemire was shooting about 40 percent from the field and averaging 17 points for much of the season -- well below his career averages. Before he went down with the back ailment, Stoudemire was averaging 18 points on 57 percent shooting in the five games before his injury.

In other developments, the Knicks are expected to add big man Dan Gadzuric to the roster. Gadzuric traveled with the team to Cleveland. With Jared Jeffries out, the Knicks need depth in the second unit. Jeffries is expected to rest until the start of the playoffs to try to heal his sore right knee, which has been bothering him for the past two months.

Small forward Bill Walker, 34, will be waived to make room on the roster for Gadzuric. Walker, a nine-year veteran, is expected to be eligible for the playoffs.



Chris Perez fined $750 for tweet

Indians closer Chris Perez has been fined $750 by Major League Baseball for a "reckless" message on his Twitter account after a benches-clearing incident in Kansas City.

After pitchers for the Indians and Royals hit batters, touching off two benches-clearing incidents last Saturday, Perez posted a message on his account that said: "Huge team win tonight; time for a sweep to tell the Royals it's not 'Our Time', it's (hash)TribeTime. P.S. You hit us, we hit you. Period."

On Wednesday, Perez received a fine from MLB senior vice president Joe Garagiola Jr., who told Perez he "demonstrated a reckless disregard for the safety of the players on both clubs."

Perez told the team's website that he's "not going to change the way I tweet."

Perez said he doesn't believe he broke any rules. Perez earned his fourth save Thursday for the Indians, who open a three-game series Friday in Oakland.



MLB, union revise Pujols contract terms

Major League Baseball and the players' association have informed teams and agents that they no longer will approve personal-service deals and special "milestone" bonus clauses similar to those contained in Albert Pujols' contract with the Los Angeles Angels, officials of both agencies told ESPN.com.

MLB and the union agreed to the changes this month in the wake of Pujols' 10-year, $240 million contract and Ryan Zimmerman's six-year, $100 million extension with theWashington Nationals, which also contains a personal-services option following his playing career.

The contracts of Pujols and Zimmerman, as well as the milestone-bonus "marketing" package inAlex Rodriguez's 2007 contract with the Yankees, won't be affected by the new rules, said Dan Halem, MLB's senior vice president of labor relations. But no future contracts containing similar provisions will be allowed, Halem said.

Michael Weiner, executive director of the players' union, also confirmed the new rules. "Both clauses raise questions under the Basic Agreement, and both parties felt they should not be a subject of individual negotiations," Weiner said. Rob Manfred, MLB's executive vice president for economics and league affairs, told ESPN.com that the two sides began talking about implementing the new rules this past winter because of growing concerns that arose from the language in Pujols' and Zimmerman's contracts.

The "milestone" bonus in Pujols' deal could pay him up to $10 million in "marketing" payouts -- $3 million for his 3,000th hit, another $7 million if he breaks Barry Bonds' all-time home- run record.

The league and the union have agreed that bonuses such as those violate a provision in baseball's basic agreement that prohibits contract incentives based on virtually all statistical achievements.

Pujols also has the option to accept a 10-year, $10 million personal-services contract with the Angels once he retires as an active player, and Zimmerman's new extension contains the option for a five-year, $10 million personal-services deal.

However, the two sides have concluded that the Basic Agreement doesn't permit players to agree to contracts that cover obligations beyond their playing careers.

One source told ESPN.com that baseball is trying to close loopholes that teams might be able to use to avoid paying a luxury tax, and both of these provisions fall under that heading because neither milestone bonuses nor personal-services deals are considered to be guaranteed money.

MLB Standing

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	HOME	ROAD
Baltimore	8	5	.615	-	3-3	5-2
Tampa Bay	7	6	.538	1	3-0	4-6
NY Yankees	7	6	.538	1	4-3	3-3
Toronto	6	6	.500	1.5	4-5	2-1
Boston	4	8	.333	3.5	3-3	1-5
CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	HOME	ROAD
Detroit	9	4	.692	-	5-2	4-2
Cleveland	6	5	.545	2	1-4	5-1
Chicago Sox	6	6	.500	2.5	3-4	3-2
Minnesota	4	9	.308	5	2-4	2-5
Kansas City	3	9	.250	5.5	0-6	3-3
WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	HOME	ROAD
Texas	11	2	.846	-	5-2	6-0
Seattle	7	7	.500	4.5	3-3	4-4
Oakland	7	7	.500	4.5	3-4	4-3
LA Angels	4	9	.308	7	2-5	2-4

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST	W	L	PCT	GB	HOME	ROAD
Washington	10	4	.714	-	6-2	4-2
Atlanta	8	5	.615	1.5	5-1	3-4
NY Mets	7	5	.583	2	4-2	3-3
Miami	7	6	.538	2.5	5-2	2-4
Philadelphia	6	7	.462	3.5	3-3	3-4
CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB	HOME	ROAD
St. Louis	9	4	.692	-	4-2	5-2
Milwaukee	6	7	.462	3	3-3	3-4
Pittsburgh	5	7	.417	3.5	2-1	3-6
Cincinnati	5	8	.385	4	3-3	2-5
Houston	5	8	.385	4	3-3	2-5
Chicago Cubs	3	10	.231	6	2-5	1-5
WEST	W	L	PCT	GB	HOME	ROAD
LA Dodgers	10	3	.769	-	6-0	4-3
Arizona	7	6	.538	3	4-3	3-3
San Francisco	6	6	.500	3.5	4-2	2-4
Colorado	6	6	.500	3.5	5-4	1-2
San Diego	3	11	.214	7.5	2-6	1-5



Bud Selig: A's, Rays need new parks

NEW YORK -- Baseball commissioner Bud Selig insists the Oakland Athletics and Tampa Bay Rays must have new ballparks to be able to compete.

Speaking on Thursday to the Associated Press Sports Editors, Selig provided no timetable for deciding the Bay Area dispute between the A's, who would like to build a ballpark in San Jose, and the Giants, who won't give up their territorial rights there.

"I'm always hopeful when there are debates amongst clubs, I try to lead teams in a direction of solving their problems themselves," Selig said. "However, this group has an interesting comment whenever they get in trouble: 'That's why you're here, commissioner.' That's what they tell me. I don't know that that's a particularly good answer. ... We've had a lot of meetings, spent an enormous amount of time. I've just met with both clubs again and we'll continue along this process."

Asked whether there could be a solution that wouldn't anger one of the Bay Area teams, Selig responded: "Time will tell. I'm always hopeful. I'm an optimist, and I really believe that every problem has a solution to it. The question is just finding the right one, and so far I've been lucky on that score. And so I hope my string of luck will continue."

Oakland owner Lew Wolff responded in an email to The Associated Press: "Bud is doing his best to be fair to us and the Giants."

Selig was clear, however, that he wants the A's to move from the Coliseum, their home since 1968 and the last stadium shared by baseball and the NFL.

"The one given everybody believes is that Oakland needs a new stadium," Selig said. "The last time I was there, I probably shouldn't say this, but I'll say it anyway, it reminded me of County Stadium and Shea Stadium, and that's not a compliment, in either case. ... You can't ask people to compete if they have a stadium that doesn't produce any kind of revenue to give them a chance to compete. So that's a given."

Twenty-three teams have opened ballparks since 1989, all but Boston (which celebrates the 100th anniversary of Fenway Park on Friday), the Chicago Cubs, the Los Angeles Angels and Dodgers, Kansas City, Oakland and Tampa Bay. The ballparks of the Angels and Royals have undergone major renovations.

The Rays started play in Tropicana Field in 1998, eight years after it opened. Owner Stuart Sternberg announced plans in 2007 for a new ballpark with a retractable fabric roof, then abandoned the project over the next two years.

Kerry Wood to DL; Ryan Dempster iffy

The Chicago Cubs, losers of five straight games, might be down two key pitchers heading into their three-game series starting Friday against the Cincinnati Reds.

The Cubs put reliever Kerry Wood on the 15-day disabled list with right shoulder fatigue.

Ryan Dempster had an MRI on his right quad Friday and his start against the Reds on Sunday is questionable, according to a source familiar with the situation.

Randy Wells will be recalled from Triple-A Iowa and get the start if Dempster cannot pitch.

The Cubs are recalling Scott Maine from Triple-A Iowa to take Wood's place.

Wood left the team Tuesday to get a cortisone shot in Chicago and missed the entire series against the Miami Marlins.

He has a history of arm trouble, and the Cubs are saying that they are being cautious with Wood. His current shoulder discomfort dates to spring training. He was held to just over five innings in Cactus League play.

"You have the concerns," Cubs manager Dale Sveum said. "There is a track record there."

Dempster is 0-1 with a 1.33 ERA in his first three starts.





Report: Union against Derek Fisher

The NBA Players' Association executive committee, at the urging of executive director Billy Hunter, has voted to seek the resignation of union president Derek Fisher, according to a report by Yahoo! Sports.

The report, citing sources, said Fisher has not only refused to resign, but is in the process of gathering the support of players to challenge the business and financial practices of Hunter.

This is not the first time Fisher and Hunter have clashed. The two were central figures in the NBA lockout, and caused a rift between players who forced to take sides.

Just this week, Fisher, according to Yahoo! Sports, convinced the eight-member executive committee to approve an independent auditor to examine Hunter's regime. Still, Hunter convinced that same committee to vote against Fisher.

Hunter, according to the report, had his legal team send a memo to players Tuesday night, informing them the audit had been canceled.

"The executive committee recognized the review was unnecessary since there had been a recent independent audit of the NBPA's finances which raised no issues," read the memo, acquired by Yahoo! Sports.

Fisher, now with the Oklahoma City Thunder, has more than two years left on his appointment as NBPA president, while Hunter still has more than three years left on his contract.



NBA Standing

EASTERN		W	L	PCT	GB	HOME	ROAD
1	y - Chicago	47	16	.746	-	24-7	23-9
2	y - Miami	45	17	.726	1 ½	27-4	18-13
3	x - Indiana	41	22	.651	6	22-8	19-14
4	y - Boston	37	26	.587	10	22-9	15-17
5	x - Atlanta	37	25	.597	9 ½	20-9	17-16
6	x - Orlando	36	26	.581	10 ½	20-12	16-14
7	x - New York	33	29	.532	13 ½	21-11	12-18
8	Philadelphia	32	30	.516	14 ½	19-14	13-16
	Milwaukee	29	33	.468	17 ½	15-15	14-18
	Detroit	23	40	.365	24	16-15	7-25
	New Jersey	22	41	.349	25	9-23	13-18
	Toronto	22	41	.349	25	12-20	10-21
	Cleveland	20	41	.328	26	10-21	10-20
	Washington	16	46	.258	30 ½	9-22	7-24
	Charlotte	7	54	.115	39	4-26	3-28

WESTERN		W	L	PCT	GB	HOME	ROAD
1	y - San Antonio	45	16	.738	-	25-5	20-11
2	y - Oklahoma City	45	17	.726	½	25-6	20-11
3	x - LA Lakers	40	23	.635	6	25-7	15-16
4	x - LA Clippers	39	24	.619	7	23-9	16-15
5	x - Memphis	37	25	.597	8 ½	23-7	14-18
6	x - Dallas	35	28	.556	11	22-10	13-18
7	Denver	34	28	.548	11 ½	19-13	15-15
8	Phoenix	33	30	.524	13	19-12	14-18
	Utah	33	30	.524	13	22-8	11-22
	Houston	32	31	.508	14	20-11	12-20
	Portland	28	35	.444	18	20-13	8-22
	Minnesota	26	38	.406	20 ½	13-18	13-20
	Golden State	22	39	.361	23	12-19	10-20
	Sacramento	20	42	.323	25 ½	15-16	5-26
	New Orleans	20	43	.317	26	11-22	9-21